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Montana State University hockey team opens season Saturday

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FROM: Bob Gilluly
Sports News Editor
Montana State University

111358

MISSOULA--The Montana State University hockey team, which gained semi-official recognition from MSU authorities this year, will open its season Saturday and Sunday with games against the Great Falls Americans in Great Falls.

Although operating strictly as a group of independent athletes, the hockey players, mostly Canadian students at MSU, have expressed keen enthusiasm for permanently establishing the game at the University.

Team spokesmen said the squad is attempting to set up a regular schedule of games against the Great Falls squad and other nearby teams. The squad will play its games out of town, since the MSU Glacier Rink is only about half the size of a regulation hockey rink.

Given credit for organization of the team was Dr. Harold Chatland, Academic Vice President of the University and a former hockey player. Working with the squad have been Dr. Willard Nicholl, Missoula physician; and coach Sam Elfenson, Missoula businessman who is a former semi-professional hockey star.

Squad members include Russ Blauel, Al Craig, Ron Grekul, Bill Melnychuck, Leon Prodor and Sandy Stewart, Edmonton, Alta.; Don Ferguson, Denny Graham, Cam McCallum, Wally McNeill, Ed Sibbald, Jerry Sinclair, George Thompson, and Bob Van Housen, Calgary, Alta.; Marv Tillier and Ron Smith, Lethbridge, Alta.; Malcolm Broatch, Cochrane, Alta.; Gordon Kerr, Coleman, Alta.; Tom Uphill, Fernie, B.C.; Rod Kempel, Minot, No. Dak.; Duane Jackson, Butte; Les Hudson, Missoula; and Bob LeBlanc, Boston, Mass.

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